

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 69-80, and 87-89, all as shown below. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented claims in a continuing or future application.

16. (Original) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a policy manager for managing a security policy; and
- an application guard for managing access to securable components as specified by the security policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

29. (Original) A system for controlling user access in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a global policy specifying access privileges of the user to securable components;
- a policy manager located on a server for managing and distributing to a client a local client policy based on the global policy, and

- an application guard located on the client for managing access to the securable components as specified by the local client policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

57. (Original) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a policy manager for managing a security policy; and
- an application guard for managing access to securable components including at least one application as specified by the security policy.

58. (Original) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a policy manager for managing a security policy; and
- an application guard for managing access to securable components including a function within an application as specified by the security policy.

59. (Original) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a policy manager for managing a security policy; and
- an application guard for managing access to securable components including a procedure within an application as specified by the security policy.

60. (Original) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a policy manager for managing a security policy; and
- an application guard for managing access to securable components including a data structure within an application as specified by the security policy.

61. (Original) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a policy manager for managing a security policy; and
- an application guard for managing access to securable components including a database object within referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

62. (Original) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- a policy manager for managing a security policy; and

an application guard for managing access to securable components including a file system object referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

63. (Original) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including at least one application as specified by the security policy.

64. (Original) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including a function within an application as specified by the security policy.

65. (Original) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including a procedure within an application as specified by the security policy.

66. (Original) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including a data structure within an application as specified by the security policy.

67. (Original) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
- managing access via an application guard to securable components including a database object referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

68. (Original) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
- managing access via an application guard to securable components including a file system object referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

69. (Currently Amended) A method for maintaining software application security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
- managing, via an application guard, access to securable software application components as specified by the security policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests in order to access securable software application components based on the additional customized code.

70. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling user access to software application components via a system in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

- specifying via a global policy privileges of the user to access securable software application components;
- managing and distributing, via a policy manager, to a client, a local client policy based on the global policy, and

managing, via an application guard located on the client, access to the securable software application components as specified by the local client policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests in order to access securable software application components based on the additional customized code.

71. (Currently Amended) A method for authorization that provides for a user access to securable software application components of a system, comprising:

specifying via a policy, privileges of the user to access the securable software application components;

managing via an application guard access to the securable software application components; and

executing the application guard via a processor coupled to the system;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests in order to access securable software application components based on the additional customized code.

72. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy manager ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing a security policy; and

providing an application guard ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing access to securable components including at least one application as specified by the security policy.

73. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy manager ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing a security policy; and

providing an application guard ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing access to securable components including a function within an application as specified by the security policy.

74. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy manager ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing a security policy; and
providing an application guard ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing access to securable components including a procedure within an application as specified by the security policy.

75. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy manager ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing a security policy; and
providing an application guard ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing access to securable components including a data structure within an application as specified by the security policy.

76. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy manager ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing a security policy; and
providing an application guard ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing access to securable components including a database object referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

77. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy manager ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing a security policy; and
providing an application guard ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing access to securable components including a file system object referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

78. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy manager ~~[[for]] to manage~~ managing a security policy; and

providing an application guard ~~[[for]] to manage managing~~ access to securable software application components as specified by the security policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

79. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ controlling user access in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

providing a global policy specifying privileges of the user to access securable components;

providing a policy manager located on a server ~~[[for]] to manage managing~~ and ~~distributing distribute~~ to a client a local client policy based on the global policy, and

providing an application guard located on the client ~~[[for]] to manage managing~~ access to the securable software application components as specified by the local client policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

80. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing a system for~~ authorizing authorization that ~~provides~~ access to securable components for a user, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy specifying access privileges of the user to the securable software application components;

providing an application guard; and

providing a processor coupled to said system, said processor executing said application guard to manage access to the securable software application components;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

81. (Original) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment comprising the steps of:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and

managing access via an application guard to securable components including at least one application as specified by the security policy.

82. (Original) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment comprising the steps of:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including a function within an application as specified by the security policy.

83. (Original) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment comprising the steps of:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including a procedure within an application as specified by the security policy.

84. (Original) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment comprising the steps of:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including a data structure within an application as specified by the security policy.

85. (Original) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment comprising the steps of:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and
managing access via an application guard to securable components including a database object referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

86. (Original) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and

managing access via an application guard to securable components including a file system object referenced by an application as specified by the security policy.

87. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment comprising the steps of:

managing a security policy via a policy manager; and

managing via an application guard access to securable software application components as specified by the security policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests in order to access securable software application components based on the additional customized code.

88. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for controlling user access via a system in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

specifying access privileges of the user via a global policy to securable software application components;

managing and distributing via a policy manager a local client policy based on the global policy located on a server to a client, and

managing access via an application guard located on the client to the securable software application components as specified by the local client policy;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests in order to access securable software application components based on the additional customized code.

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89. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a method for authorization that provides access to securable software application components of a system for a user, comprising:

specifying access privileges of the user via a policy to securable software application components

managing access via an application guard to the securable software application components; and

executing via a processor coupled to said system said application guard;

wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests in order to access securable software application components based on the additional customized code.